

Washington D.C. - Congresswoman Linda Sánchez (CA-39) will join a Congressional delegation flying to Vatican City tomorrow to attend the installation of Pope Benedict XVI on Sunday.

“The Pope serves as a spiritual and moral leader for so many people across the world and in my district. I am thrilled to have the chance to attend and to pay my respects,” said Congresswoman Sánchez.

Included in the delegation are twenty-one members of the U.S. House of Representatives. Four other Members from California are joining Congresswoman Sánchez: Representatives Grace Napolitano (CA-38), Hilda Solis (CA-32), Diane Watson (CA-33), and Daniel Lungren (CA-3).

“I view this as a once in a lifetime opportunity to represent the thousands of Catholics in conveying our best wishes to the Pope as he takes on this enormous responsibility,” continued Sánchez.

The trip has especially significant meaning for Congresswoman Sánchez who grew up in a family and community deeply rooted in their Catholic beliefs.

“I remember being a little girl and listening to my grandmother talk about what the Catholic Church meant to her. It meant helping the less fortunate, protecting the most vulnerable members of our society, and creating opportunity for all people to share in the blessings of America. This is what faith still means to me,” concluded Sánchez.

More details on the trip and the events of the weekend will be released as they become available.